

# COMBAT COMPETITION MANIPULATION

WHITE PAPER V. 1.0



**To All Friends in DanceSport!**

This "White Paper" is the first official publication released by the members of the Presidential Task Force to Combat Competition Manipulation in DanceSport (CCM TF). It follows up on the problem that I have outlined in a letter to all of you that was circulated in April 2016.

I can only repeat what I said then, *"If we cannot find a solution to this, certainly the most urgent of our problems, we should not have to be overly concerned about all the others we need to address in the future."*

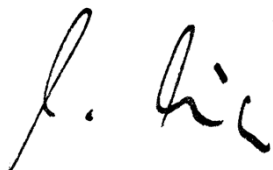
CCM TF was established to start a process that will require for paradigms to be shifted in something we all cherish: dancing, comparing one's skills to those of others, getting the recognition that is deserved, and contesting the titles awarded by this sports authority.

If it is to achieve anything, this paper should trigger reflections on the part of the reader that dare to put in question the validity of some of the axioms in a century-old history of something that was considered anything but sport, but that now aspires to be a serious contender for inclusion into the Olympic Games.

Even if a reader does not agree with all the assumptions and conclusions made throughout the paper, it should still serve as a point of departure and reference in the discussions of the topic.

All of this submitted with respect.

Zurich (Switzerland), 21 October 2016

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Hinder', written in a cursive style.

**World DanceSport Federation (WDSF)**

Lukas Hinder  
WDSF President

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# THE TASK FORCE

## FIRST MEETING | MEMBERS

The members of the Presidential Task Force (TF) to Combat Competition Manipulation (CCM) in DanceSport met for the first time on 14 August 2016 in Stuttgart, GER, immediately following the traditional German Open Championships (GOC) that were held there.

Sadly, the scheduling of this constituting meeting proved all the more timely as controversies over alleged acts of competition manipulation had arisen prior to and during some of the GOC events.

The CCM TF is made up of the following three (3) members:

### LUKAS HINDER



Mr Lukas Hinder is President of the World DanceSport Federation (WDSF) since January 2016 and formally elected by the General Meeting to serve out the term of his predecessor, who had to step down from the presidency for health reasons.

After his career as an athlete and Swiss Champion competing in the Latin American dances at the highest international level, Hinder was elected to three consecutive terms as President of the Swiss DanceSport Federation before he moved on to hold office as Treasurer and then as First Vice-President of WDSF. He is also a member of the executive board of the International World Games Association. In his professional life, President Hinder is an elected notary and registrar in Zurich.

## **HARRI SYVÄSALMI**



Mr Harri Syväsalmi renowned expert on integrity in sports. He had served as the first Director General of the World Anti-Doping Agency, was chairman of the Working Group for the Council of Europe Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions, and he is currently chairing the European Union Expert Group on Match-Fixing.

As the Secretary General of the Finnish Centre for Integrity in Sports (FINCIS) Syväsalmi is in the process of setting up a governmental hybrid that is unique in the world in as far as its mission is concerned. FINCIS is chiefly responsible for advocating and enforcing ethical principles in Finnish sport, carrying out anti-doping activities, preventing match-fixing and promoting spectator safety and security, among other things.

## **DANIEL STEHLIN**



Mr Daniel Stehlin is the Chairman of the WDSF Disciplinary Council. It is important to point out, however, that he contributes to the work of the CCM Task Force exclusively in his capacity as the author of two

acclaimed legal instruments, the Code of Ethics and the Code of Internal Dispute Resolution, as well as an expert on the process of judicial investigation. He specifically excludes himself from any and all tasks taken on by the CCM TF that could end up compromising his position as a neutral arbitrator on the Disciplinary Council. Outside of DanceSport, Stehlin works as a public prosecutor in Switzerland.

## **INVITEES | OTHER CONTRIBUTORS**

At this early stage in creating the blueprints for what should – in the mid-term – develop into a complex and comprehensive process, membership in the CCM TF is intentionally kept at a small number of people for a variety of reasons. The quick, non-bureaucratic responsiveness that is guaranteed by fewer members as well as their qualified focus on policy-making and governance are two of them.

On the other hand, it is perfectly understood that three people would never be able to tackle a problem of the magnitude of competition manipulation on their own – and that not all solutions to the underlying problems will necessarily be derived from good policy-making. The members of the CCM TF are keenly aware of the need to bring many and different views as well as very specific expertise in on their discussions as soon as this becomes possible.

Dialogue will need to be established with all the different Competition Stakeholders (page 6) as well as with experts in a variety of fields. This will be done by inviting them to take part in the discussions of the CCM TF that are held face-to-face at different times and places throughout the year – or as conference calls on telephone or Skype at regular intervals.

Any person invited to attend meetings of the TF – or invited to participate in conference calls with TF members – is considered an “Invitee” and is expected to maintain absolute confidentiality of the matters that are discussed on such occasions. More, all Invitees are granted individual hearings to enable them to address even the most sensitive matters in privacy and confidentiality.

The members of the CCM TF also recognise that the administration and communication associated with their work requires support by staff present at most of their meetings. They appoint Ms Auli Korhonen, Finland, as the permanent TF Secretary and put her in charge of minuting the proceedings. Ms Korhonen also provides direct administrative support to Mr Syväsalmi in his work for TF. Members of the WDSF professional staff – such as the CEO, the General Secretary, the Sports Director, the Communications Director and others – may be brought in on the discussions to provide their input and/or to get briefed on assignments they need to take on in connection with the work of the TF. All of these “Other Contributors” to the work of the CCM TF are sworn to secrecy.

## **COMPETITION MANIPULATION**

### **DEFINITION**

Among the objectives of the first meeting in Stuttgart was to agree on an acceptable definition of Competition Manipulation in DanceSport.

While the term can – and almost always does – have very specific connotations if applied to DanceSport, its definition should nevertheless be consistent with all those it is given in the other sports. For the purpose of the CCM TF’s work, it was agreed to adopt the standardised definition and the terminology that used in the documents referenced below the quotes.

*“Manipulation of sports competitions” means an intentional arrangement, act or omission aimed at an improper alteration of the result or the course of a sports competition in order to remove all or part of the unpredictable nature of the aforementioned sports competition with a view to obtaining an undue advantage for oneself or for others.*

*Article 3, Chapter 4 of the Council of Europe Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions (Council of Europe, 2014)*

The “IOC Handbook on Protecting Sport from Competition Manipulation” adds to the above definition the following text for clarification.

In short, competition manipulation is the improper influencing of the course or result of a competition for an advantage. The term “match-fixing” is often used yet the term ‘match’ is not terminology used by all sports and implies only that the result is fixed. The term “competition manipulation” includes influencing specific actions during the course of the competition and hence includes both “result-fixing” and “sport-fixing” which is the action or practice of dishonestly determining the outcome of a specific part of a competition before it is played.

*Article 2, Chapter 1 of the IOC Handbook on Protecting Sport from Competition Manipulation, Interpol IOC Integrity in Sport Initiative (INTERPOL, IOC; 2016)*

The IOC Handbook makes another important distinction by dividing Competition Manipulation (CM) into two types:

For sporting purposes, where the manipulation is perpetrated to provide a sporting advantage, for example in league promotion, relegation or a perceived advantageous competition draw or any other sporting advantage;

For financial gain through betting, where the manipulation is designed to pre-determine an event related to the competition that is expected to be offered on the betting markets.

## **TERMINOLOGY**

A few additional terms commonly associated with CM are defined here for clarity in understanding and shared meaning. They are listed in alphabetical order and the respective descriptions are taken, verbatim or abridged, from the two documents referenced above.

Betting means any wagering of a stake of monetary value in the expectation of a prize of monetary value, subject to a future and uncertain occurrence related to a sports competition.

Betting Monitoring Report is an analysis of what happened in the



betting market relating to a specific competition / match. It may be used to support / corroborate suspicions of competition manipulation.

Competition Stakeholder means any natural or legal person belonging to one of the following categories:

- *athlete* means any person, or any group of persons, participating in sports competitions;
- *athlete support personnel* is the term referring to a coach, trainer, manager, agent, team staff, team official, medical or paramedical personnel working with or treating athletes participating in or preparing for sports competitions, and all other persons working with the athletes;
- *official* means any person who is the owner of, a shareholder in, an executive or a staff member of the entities which organise and promote sports competitions, as well as the referees, jury members and any other accredited persons. The term also covers the executives and staff of the international sports organisation or, where appropriate, another competent sports organisation which recognises the competition.

Corruption is any course of action or failure to act by individuals or organisations, public or private, in violation of law or trust for profit or gain. Competition manipulation is a form of corruption. It occurs when a person offers, promises or grants an unjustified advantage to a sports organisation, an athlete, an official or any other third party, within or outside the organisation, on behalf of him/herself or a third party in an attempt to incite them to violate the regulations of the organisation.

Evidence is information that is gathered in order to establish facts. Any type of evidence may be produced, such as but not limited to documents, reports from officials, declarations from parties, declarations from witnesses, audio and video recordings, expert opinions and all other proof that is relevant to the case.

Fact is something that actually happened and can be proven to have happened, or at least can be corroborated by other information. It is not an assumption, conjecture or innuendo. The facts are the key to determining the outcome of any case, dispute or contentious issue. They are directly linked to the specific regulation or code of conduct at issue.

Fact-Finder is any individual responsible for conducting inquiries to establish the facts in relation to a suspicion or allegation of competition manipulation and submitting the results in accordance with disciplinary procedure.

Inside Information is information relating to a competition that a person possesses by virtue of his or her position in relation to a sport or the competition, excluding any information already published or common knowledge, easily accessible to interested members of the

public or disclosed in accordance with the rules and regulations governing the relevant competition.

Source is any individual who provides relevant information to aid an inquiry or a criminal investigation. In the context of a fact-finding inquiry, there are two types of source: those who are free to provide this information or not as they see fit and those who are bound by the codes and / or regulations of a sports organisation that stipulate that they must report and / or cooperate with the inquiry.

## **SPORTS INTEGRITY**

In order to put the information provided under **DEFINITION** and **OTHER TERMINOLOGY** into perspective, it behoves the authors of this paper to be just as specific about the one and overriding goal of the TF, which is to ensure that integrity is upheld in DanceSport competitions – at all times. “Sports Integrity” is described in the IOC Handbook as follows:

**Sports’ positive contribution to society can only be achieved through sport that is with integrity and ethics. Sport that is practised with integrity is practised with honesty, according to the rules, and provides a fair, inclusive and well governed environment.**

*Article 1, Chapter 1 of the IOC Handbook on Protecting Sport from Competition Manipulation, Interpol IOC Integrity in Sport Initiative (INTERPOL, IOC; 2016)*

Integrity in a sport leads to enhanced participation, financial viability and a successful, positive brand that is appreciated by all parties involved in practising and in following it.

Breaches to sports integrity include:

- *Competition manipulation;*
- *Winning beyond the rules of the game;*
- *Doping;*
- *Inequity and harassment;*
- *Anti-social behaviour or attitudes;*
- *Weak governance that leads to unethical behaviour;*
- *Unsportsmanlike conduct;*
- *Criminal behaviour.*

Breaches to sports integrity can have far-reaching repercussions that could include:

- *Sports disciplinary proceedings;*

- *Criminal proceedings;*
- *Reputational damage;*
- *Fan and sponsor loss;*
- *Loss of broadcaster interest*

## **OTHER REFERENCES**

The CCM TF is very fortunate to be able to refer to quality publications that have been authored by leading experts in the field on behalf of organisations such as the Council of Europe, the International Olympic Committee, Interpol and several others. What is quoted in this Chapter to define CM, to establish the most basic terminology associated with CM and the fight against it, and to describe the term “Sports Integrity” has been excerpted from two documents.

- *IOC Handbook on Protecting Sport from Competition Manipulation, Interpol IOC Integrity in Sport Initiative (INTERPOL, IOC; 2016)*
- *Council of Europe Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions (Council of Europe; 2014)*

The wealth of information provided in these two documents has been abridged to the extent that what is published here can and does relate to DanceSport, and that it corresponds to the early stage in the TF’s effort to combat CM. The original information is far more exhaustive and covers a multitude of additional concepts that the CCM TF will need to address eventually, as it advances in the process of creating its own strategies and tactics to combat CM.

Everyone is encouraged to download the full documents for perusal. There are several additional publications that are also recommended for study by all those taking an interest in the fight against CM.

- *Olympic Movement Code on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions (INTERPOL, IOC; 2015)*
- *Model Criminal Law Provisions for the Prosecution of Competition Manipulation (UN Office on Drugs and Crime, IOC; 2016)*
- *Protecting the Integrity of Sport Competition · The Last Bet for Modern Sport (University Sorbonne, International Centre for Sport Security; 2014)*

All these publications can be downloaded as PDF files under their respective links that are published in this White Paper (Version 1.0, October 2016). As the work of the CCM TF progresses over time, this paper will be amended periodically to reflect the advances that are made and additional relevant publications could get referenced.

# COMPETITION MANIPULATION

## IN DANCESPORT

It lies in the nature of things that each sport tends to be affected by sport-specific forms of manipulation targeting its competitions. Even if there are some common traits between an act of manipulation in one sport and that in another, there are bound to be just as many differences. To the extent that the manipulating in a ball sport cannot easily be compared to the type occurring most frequently in an artistic sport.

Similarly, the Competition Stakeholders most likely to perpetrate the acts of manipulation are not the same in every sport. While players and officials could both – and almost equally – be suspected of having manipulated a football match, athletes on their own should not count among the prime suspects as perpetrators of manipulation in a figure skating competition.

Which sports are most affected by CM and the countries where CM is most likely to occur are two of the other variables studied by the experts and described extensively in the literature on CM. That football is most prone to be subject to CM in all of its forms has obviously to do with the fact that it is the most popular and widely followed sport of all. And it cannot come as much of a surprise that cricket assumes the number two position – for the same reasons.

Since these two sports are scrutinised more than the others for CM occurring at virtually all levels, more cases will likely be detected, and this ranking should not change any time soon. That a football match in the third division of a European country could ever get manipulated by Asian criminals stretches one's imagination – no doubt – but it also reveals where the current epicentres for CM are located on the global map.

In order to establish the appropriate strategies and tactics to combat CM, the TF must first screen DanceSport for the different forms of manipulation, either sport-specific or general, and come up with the appropriate answers to the "What, who and where?" beforehand.

## **BETTING**

CM has developed into a global phenomenon, particularly over the last two to three decades, with the number of cases on a vertiginous ascent in virtually all sports and nearly everywhere. This has happened primarily because of the one common denominator that seems to underlie upwards from 80% of all cases qualifying as CM: sports betting.

The concept is not new, is said to date all the way back to Greek antiquity and to have been continually refined ever since. This above all by British bookmakers offering odds for betting on horse races in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century and – much more recently, during the final years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century – by worldwide operators offering bets on virtually every sport known to mankind through the Internet.

The latter coincided with sports per se becoming increasingly important in terms of their economic weight in the developed countries. Even if financial figures on the global sports market are published regularly and do include sports betting, they should never be taken at face value as only legal betting can be considered. The sports market could account for as much as 2% of the global Domestic Product – but without illegal sports betting that could, based on the estimations of experts, raise the scale by 50 to 100%!

In their first meeting, the members of the TF decided to have experts assess whether bets on the outcome of DanceSport competitions or on any other occurrence in competitive DanceSport are offered on the global betting market. The betting monitoring systems that were commissioned to investigate did not detect any activity at this time or in the recent past. Even if DanceSport seems to be off the radar for any form of legal betting and thus unlikely to be subject to CM for financial gain through betting, the TF will commission periodic Betting Monitoring Reports on WDSF championships in the future.

What could well turn out to be the dominant and most idiosyncratic acts of CM in DanceSport could also be the most effective deterrents to betting on results and other occurrences. The definition of these acts should confirm that.

## **CULTURE OF AN INDUSTRY**

What constitutes the most typical act of CM occurring in DanceSport is in fact something that goes back 100 years, that has been around from the first days of what was then called “competitive ballroom dancing,” and that has been considered perfectly permissible by the community of dancers and teachers at the time. This idiosyncratic form of CM revolves around the undeniable conflicts of interest that arise from the principal Competition Stakeholders switching from one role to another with great frequency, from being athlete support personnel – as a teacher or as trainer – at one moment to being a refereeing official the next.

It was at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century when dance teachers and enterprising professionals first brought structure to what they perceived as an “industry.” English dance teachers were first to define each of the ballroom dances and to develop the techniques that an international community then readily embraced.

When the competitive element was added at about the same time, the pioneers hardly considered “competitive ballroom dancing” to be sport. Not only because to them it straddled primarily the artistic and the social field, but also because it was not consistent with the Anglo-Saxon perception of sport that was still marked by the Victorian and Edwardian eras.

In the early part of the 20th century, and above all in England, an important distinction between amateurs and professionals in sports was made from the societal point of view. Sports like athletics, golf and tennis were the privilege of the upper class that could afford to practise them for pleasure only. Earning one’s living through dexterity, skills and physical virtues was considered inappropriate and “working class” – and best exemplified by sports such as football, rugby and cricket.

Almost despite its physical component that could easily compare to any of the upper-class sports, competitive dancing was added to the new and still fledgling “ballroom industry.” The first competitive dancers, their trainers and those who decided about the outcome of

their competitions had no reservations about declaring themselves professionals. Almost without exception, they were teaching dance and enterprising in the field of ballroom with fulltime dedication. Being a professional seemed perfectly acceptable. After all, they were part of an “industry” – and in a glamorous one at that!

## **CULTURE OF A SPORT**

“When competitive dancing left the narrow confines of the ballrooms ...” – that was the spin used regularly since the 1980s to signal that dance had, over time, become sportier in nature – it may have assumed a new identity as “sport.” Maybe it did so for some, definitely not for all, and with very significant reservations and caveats made in the respect: “a special sport,” “unlike any other,” etc. It was at best a very subtle change which didn’t imply either that the previously held perception was abandoned altogether.

Even if the process started off with the concept of amateurism being added to dance competitions as early as the 1930s, the latter’s advancement continued to be driven by the professionals. They played the crucial part in it. They defined the rules, trained their protégés to respect these rules and, finally, they ensured that the rules were upheld in competition.

Even if those performing on the floor happened to be amateurs now, the ones teaching and/or training them were professionals who belonged to the industry of dance. That these same professionals also happened to be the ones assessing the quality of the performances put in by amateur dancers was most likely appropriate at first. Where else could expert judges have been drawn from at that stage?

However, even if the actual dancing in Standard and Latin American has developed and changed over the decades, it was never capable of severing its close ties to the very “ballroom industry” that got it all started. Even as a genuine sport – by now, a majority of dancers would consider it as such – it continues to be totally dependent on the structures of the same industry to ensure that its technique remains up-to-date, that it can be innovative where appropriate, and

that overall quality is on a steady ascent. What is harder to accept is its industry-dependency in another area: the refereeing.

## **BIAS ACCEPTED BY CULTURE AND SYSTEM**

What a referee officiating at a professional football match between West Bromwich Albion FC and Burnley FC earned for his services at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century we don't know. What we do know for certain is that the official was unlikely to complement his income by coaching another team in the First Division. Even training juniors for one of the sides in the match, or for any other team in the league, would have been frowned upon. Bias would have been suspected!

Not much has changed since then in English football – other than the fees that are paid to referees in today's Premier League, arguably one of the most valuable properties in sports. On the average, he (or she) makes somewhere close to 70,000 £ per year, half of it as an annual retainer, with assorted obligations tied to it, the other half on a per-game basis. That's the Premier League! For officiating at the lower level compensation can hardly sum up to qualify as much of a financial incentive, as the Football Association (FA), England's governing body, estimates that in some areas of the country 20% of all games are played without qualified match officials. In fact, FA is currently calling on 14-year-old football enthusiasts to seriously consider a career in refereeing.

We can hear the adjudicators protesting that football cannot be compared to DanceSport, that there is no common ground and, most importantly, that qualifying as a referee and working as one in a ball sport should be as easy and straightforward as is the game itself.

Well, there might have been a time in DanceSport's early evolution, just as it was starting to emerge as "competitive ballroom dancing" in the England of the early twentieth century, when developments could have taken an entirely different direction. If it would have been considered a sport at that time, the English sense of fair play and chivalry should have made it impossible for one and the same person to serve in dual and contrasting roles in what needs to be an act of objective comparison of skills. In a true English sporting spirit, to be



a personal trainer in the preparations for a competition and then an unbiased adjudicator in the officiating would have been deemed more than incompatible! But with all emphasis put on the artistic and the social components of dance, considering the whole as a glamorous industry that is subject only to the rules of an open and unregulated market, it seemed perfectly acceptable. Great dancers turn into great trainers who then adjudicate the next generation of dancers as the greatest experts in the field. It is an assumption that cannot be entirely wrong ... Well, if it weren't for human nature.

To compare the dynamics with those in other, more recognised arts that also have a strong social component: in literature – an art form that had a full-fledged publishing industry attached by the early 1900s – an author could have easily turned literary agent, editor, publisher, even literary critic. But how many actually did?

In dance, on the other hand, the career cycle seemed inevitable for all those who stuck with it long enough. They learned to dance, reached proficiency, competed, excelled – and then went on to become professionals in the true sense of the word. Members of the ballroom industry earning their livelihood by teaching others to dance and by training them to excel. That some of their time was also spent gainfully determining who was excelling on the basis of a comparison between all the dancers on the floor – theirs as well as the others trained by their peers – enhanced the earning potential of the professionals further and in more ways than one.

While every professional in sports was facing the abrupt end of his or her career due to age, longevity as “ballroom industry” professional was all but guaranteed through the career cycle itself.

Not much has changed over the first century when it comes to the cycle and the practices that are described. Not during the decades of “competitive dancing” – and not during the most recent years of DanceSport either.

## **FROM BAD TO WORSE**

Despite the deliberate efforts that were / are made to amend a system that cannot fully comply with sporting principles as long as the roles of two Competition Stakeholders remain interchangeable and therefore subject to massive conflicts of interest, the situation has hardly improved since the start of the new millennium. There are many who suggest that it has deteriorated, that bias and favouritism are not only more endemic than ever, but that they tend to lead to more drastic forms of CM.

An adjudicator recalling his or her own couples after every round, ranking the finalists in the order of putting those of his or her own nationality first, even awarding marks as an adjudicator in exchange for a few private lessons taught as a trainer, these were the most common acts of manipulation in the past. Is it that other, more sophisticated forms of CM have taken their place? Or is it simply a matter of scale: it is more of the same – but much more in numbers?

DanceSport – i.e. the disciplines Standard and Latin – is still in the fortunate situation that it seems to continue to grow however slightly on the global level, albeit not in all countries, and that it does generate a financial turnover per annum that should be in line with, even slightly above that of comparable sports: non-Olympic sports with moderate but underdeveloped marketing / media potential and roughly five million active participants globally. The vast majority of this turnover is generated – as it is in the other comparable sports – by an industry that is directly linked to it. The ones who keep this industry alive by buying the range of products and services are the participants – first and foremost, almost exclusively.

That money can corrupt sports has never been more topical than in recent times, with huge scandals affecting some of the biggest. That money is at the core of manipulation and other forms of corruption in DanceSport has to be assumed. Even if – in the absence of any betting – the acts of CM fall exclusively into the category “for sporting purposes,” there are significant financial implications that should be considered.

As long as this governing body cannot pay for the services of a “dedicated” adjudicator – that is a judge who voluntarily renounces from enterprising as a trainer and one who swears on the proverbial stack of bibles to be and to remain unbiased – on a scale that corresponds on the high end to approximate amounts equal to the annual retainers paid by to the football referees in the Premier League, this will not change. 30,000+ £ / € / \$ / CHF, whatever the currency, if one would factor in the difference between the specific economic weight of FA football and that of WDSF DanceSport, it would be a very heavy burden for WDSF. Even at a modest 30 K per adjudicator on (maybe two) panels of 12 capable of working at multiple locations throughout the world – even over the same weekend – would put the ultimate strain on the treasury.

Even if paying “dedicated adjudicators” could end up being a viable solution for a select number of top-tier competitions, the situation for all remaining competitions would not change at all. Except for the Adult age group, maybe the Professional Division, and in both only for the World / Continental Championships and a very limited number of top-tier events such as a GrandSlam or a Super GrandPrix, it is status quo for all the others. Upwards from 95% of all competitions held under the auspices of WDSF – a total of 1,600 competitions in 2015 – remain being adjudicated as they are now.

That implies that they are judged by adjudicators who are paid (per Financial Regulations 2016) an amount of 200 CHF per day for their work. Obviously, expenses for travel hotel accommodation and full board are covered. The number of working days per year depends on the adjudicators, provided they are able to count on a solid network of organisers inviting them to judge their ranking competitions. The Sports Commission selects the adjudicators for less than 100 top-tier events. Nevertheless, regardless whether it’s work in a World Championship for Adult or in an Open for Juvenile I, payment is capped at 200 CHF/day. This does not apply to the second role that up to 80% of all adjudicators play in DanceSport, that of the teacher or trainer. For the bigger names in the trade, the same 200 CHF could well be an hourly rate. A fact that can cause conflicts too!

# THE TASK FORCE

## AT WORK

The Presidential Task Force on CCM sets out to determine the exact nature and scope of CM and to assess whether there are any other forms of a corruption that threaten DanceSport. It does so through its own research, studies it commissions and, above all, through the hearings it conducts with the different Competition Stakeholders and with experts in those fields that can relate to DanceSport competition.

While the CCM TF will establish the overall strategies for the fight against manipulation and other forms of corruption in DanceSport, it will never assume any active role in the investigation of individual cases. None of the three members of CCM TF can be a direct party to the judicial process that may lead to the sanctioning of an individual who commits CM. Rather, it aims to design a fast and effective process with a Fact-Finder assigned the task of conducting the investigations and of evaluating the evidence.

It is important to point out that WDSF counts on the legal instruments and the judicial bodies to fight effectively against unethical behaviour and corruption: Code of Ethics, Adjudicators' Code of Conduct and Standard of Ethics, Internal Dispute Resolution Code, etc. WDSF personnel is deployed at every competition to monitor compliance and to report on infractions. When it comes to the sanctioning, the judicial mechanisms are geared to ensure that the common rules of fundamental fairness are applied and that the principles of due course of law are adhered to. There is no need for any changes or amendments in this area, the TF can therefore put its sole focus on all the others that need immediate attention. It has identified a number of areas – under “TF Key Areas 2016/7 – that should be addressed with priority and subject to a stringent timeline that extends from the end of October 2016 through the end of June 2017.

Acknowledging that this is the start of what is bound to be a long process with realistic prospects of success rather than a quick fix without, the TF sets out to solve urgent problems in these areas first.

## **KEY AREAS OF FOCUS 2016/17**

### **Adjudicators**

Improve the education of and the control over adjudicators; educate them specifically on the ethics of their role; monitor their performances during competitions; abolish all secrecy about the composition of panels prior to major competitions (Championships, GrandSlams) to avoid that Inside Information can be compromised; publish a summary report on the panel's performance after all major competitions.

### **Chairpersons**

Create the position of the "dedicated chairperson," an official renouncing voluntarily and for an extended period of time from working as an adjudicator and committing to the role of chairperson only; he / she could be empowered to take ad hoc and preliminary action against an adjudicator suspected of having committed CM.

### **Coaches**

Restrict a coach's ability to work in that capacity depending on his or her assignments as adjudicator further, beyond the current limitations; regulate appearances in training camps further.

### **Communication**

Prepare to communicate openly – without compromising the rights of individuals – about all aspects of CM; campaign actively against CM.

### **Investigation**

Publish firm guidelines that the Fact-Finder can adhere to in conducting his or her investigation; establish a timeline; define the different stages of the investigation; take measures to signal officially that an investigation into the results of competitions is in progress.

### **Judging Criteria**

Continually improve the definitions of the criteria used in making an assessment of quality in dancing.

## **Judging Systems**

Review – by commissioning external audits – and improve systems currently in use, above all in terms of the mathematical formula(s) that are applied to reduce the impact of high or low scores awarded by an individual adjudicator on the final score for the Component; develop software that traces patterns of bias based on the evaluation of an adjudicator’s scores over several competitions.

## **Single Point of Contact**

Appoint a person to act on all matters related to CM; he / she receives all information related to CM and processes it; he / she acts as Fact-Finder and liaises directly with the judicial bodies within WDSF and, if necessary, with the authorities.

## **REFERENCES**

Press Release Announcing Plans to Install CCM TF

Press Release Announcing Mr Harri Syväsalmi as Member of CCM TF

“SKYPE THE PREZ | September” on Progress in Work of CCM TF

IOC Handbook on Protecting Sport from Competition Manipulation, Interpol IOC Integrity in Sport Initiative (INTERPOL, IOC; 2016)

Council of Europe Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions (Council of Europe; 2014)

Olympic Movement Code on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions (INTERPOL, IOC; 2015)

Model Criminal Law Provisions for the Prosecution of Competition Manipulation (UN Office on Drugs and Crime, IOC; 2016)

Protecting the Integrity of Sport Competition · The Last Bet for Modern Sport (University Sorbonne, International Centre for Sport Security; 2014)